

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PORT A 00335 271403Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PRS-01 DODE-00 /045 W
-----272251Z 067582 /63
R 271330Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3922

S E C R E T PORT AU PRINCE 0335

EO 11652 XGDS-2
TAGS: PINR, HA
SUBJECT: RUMORED GOH CABINET CHANGES

REF: STATE 013971

1. FOLLOWING ARE AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS ON INFORMATION
CONTAINED REFTEL.

2. WHILE JULES BLANCHET WOULD BE CERTAINLY COMPETENT AT
FINANCE, AND HIS RELATIONS WITH US HAVE INDEED BEEN EXCELLENT,
IT IS HARD TO SEE HOW HIS MOVE TO FINANCE WOULD HAVE ANY
PARTICULAR BEARING ON THE REGIME'S "DEMOCRATIC" IMAGE.
BROS HAS THE BEST OF RELATIONS WITH US ALREADY AND HAS
EARNED WIDESPREAD RESPECT AS A COMPETENT, DEDICATED,
SELF-EFFACING TECHNOCRAT OF INTEGRITY AND PATRIOTISM.
BLANCHET SEEMS HAPPY AND BUSY AT THE ACCOUNTING OFFICE,
WHICH HE HEADED FOR MANY YEARS, AND HE IS WORKING TO
COMPEL MORE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY WITHIN BUREAUCRACY.

WE DOUBT IF DUVALIER WOULD BE COMFORTABLE WITH BLANCHET'S
RATHER CONDESCENDING AND ICONOCLASTIC STYLE, AND UP TO NOW
JULES BLANCHET HAS NOT DEVELOPED ANY CLOSE RAPPORT WITH
PRESIDENT DESPITE HIS PROFESSIONAL STANDING AND DUVALIERIST
CREDENTIALS.

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3. PAUL BLANCHET'S REMOVAL FROM INTERIOR MAY HAVE BEEN
BROUGHT ABOUT IN LARGE PART BY THE SINCE-DETHRONED SICLAIT,
AND WE KNOW THAT HE RETAINS MADAME DUVALIER'S SUPPORT.
HENCE A COMEBACK FOR HIM IS POSSIBLE. NEVERTHELESS,
DUVALIER REPORTEDLY BECAME INCREASINGLY IRRITATED WITH
BLANCHET'S PATRONIZING, ASSERTIVE AND DOGMATIC MANNER,
AS WELL AS WITH HIS XENOPHOBIA (BLANCHET SAT ON HUNDREDS

OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE APPLICATIONS FOR MONTHS AS IF IN
HOPES THE APPLICANTS WOULD EVENTUALLY GROW WEARY AND
WITHDRAW). DUVALIER'S CURRENT PITCH FOR FRIENDSHIP WITH
FOREIGN AID DONORS AND EXPLICIT RENUNCIATION OF XENOPHOBIA
IN HIS ANCESTOR'S DAY SPEECH AGRUE AGAINST RETURNING THE
CRUSTY BLANCHET TO PROMINENCE, PARTICULARLY TO INFORMATION,
A SENSITIVE POST WHICH PAUL BLANCHET HAS ALREADY OCCUPIED
WITH LITTLE DISTINCTION.
ISHAM

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PORTA00335
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: PORT AU PRINCE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 37bd38d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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